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would suggest, interpreting my own and Professor Lankester's observations, that capillaries of the botryoidal tissue become converted into capillaries of the 'vaso-fibrous' tissue."

The capillaries upon the gastro-ileal portion of the alimentary canal are not derived from botryoidal tissue, but are probably formed by vacuolation of primitive connective-tissue cells.

Cœlomic aud Vascular Spaces.—The contractile vacuoles of Protozoa, the ducts in nephridial cells, the newly developed vertebrate capillary, and all such intracellular spaces, are formed by metamorphosis of the cells themselves, and are thus distinct from cœlomic spaces. The formation of intracellular spaces may be distinguished as "*endocytic cœlosis;*" and the formation of intercellular spaces as "*paracytic cœlosis.*"

Sensory Cells.—Mr. Bourne has traced the connection of the nerve with elongated cells, the bodies of which lie beneath the epidermal layer. He has overlooked the existence of certain peculiar cells, which are probably sensory, as I have shown elsewhere. These sensory cells lie completely beneath the epidermis, and are precisely like those found in the eye.

Mr. Bourne regards the small papillæ, which have a regular segmental arrangement in the leech, as tactile organs, and in this agrees with Leydig. In speaking of the eyes as "derivatives" of these papillæ, Mr. Bourne might have given me credit for calling his attention to this point.—*C. O. W.*

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SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

— On Tuesday last, the 2d inst., a meeting was held in the lecture room of the Zoölogical Department, British Museum, at which Dr. Coues was invited to attend, in order to explain his views and those of his compatriots on the question of nomenclature.

The chair was taken by Professor Flower, F.R.S., and amongst the speakers were the following, in the order named: Mr. R. B. Sharpe, who opened the proceedings by reading a paper "On the expediency or otherwise, of adopting a trinomial nomenclature in zoölogy;" Mr. Seebohm, who read a second paper on the subject; Dr. Elliott Coues, who explained the system advocated, and its application as proposed by him; Dr. Günther, F.R.S., who approved the scheme conditionally; Mr. P. L. Sclater, F.R.S., who pointed out that the method was not a new one, but thought it deserving of adoption by zoölogists, provided the limits of its application were properly defined; Mr. Blanford, F.R.S.; Professor F. J. Bell; Mr. Kirby; Lord Walsingham; Dr. Sharp; Dr. Woodward, F.R S.; Mr. H. T. Wharton; Mr. Howard Saunders; Mr. J. E. Harting, and Dr. Traquair, F.R.S.

Various difficulties in the way of adopting a trinomial nomenclature were pointed out by different speakers; but, on the whole, the majority appeared inclined to a favorable consideration of the scheme, with a view to its adoption with certain limitations. Dr. Traquair, Dr. Sharp, Mr. Blanford, and Mr. J. E. Harting spoke strongly against the proposed change, declaring themselves satisfied with the binomial system, which recommended itself by its extreme simplicity, and which in practice had been found to answer well enough by workers in all classes of the animal kingdom from the days of Linnæus to the present time. On bringing the proceedings to a close, the chairman (Professor Flower) said he hoped that Dr. Elliott Coues was satisfied with the way in which his views had been received. Although there were some uncompromising binomialists present, many had declared themselves what might be termed "limited trinomialists," and some appeared to go as far even as Dr. Coues himself. In nature, distinctly defined species undoubtedly existed in great numbers, owing to extinction of intermediate forms, and for these the binomial system offered all that was needed in defining them. On the other hand, there were numbers of cases in the actual state of the earth, and far more being constantly revealed to us by the discoveries of palæontology (and nowhere so rapidly as in America), where the infinite graduations defied the discrimination of a binomial system.—*From the Field.*

— The Newport (R. I.) Natural History Society, which was organized about two years ago, issued in July its proceedings, forming a brochure of forty-five pages, illustrated by four plates. Mr. J. Nelson Dale gives an account of the geology of the tract known as Paradise, accompanied by two excellent plates; he also prints remarks, with a plate, on some of the evidences of geological disturbance in the vicinity of Newport. Rev. C. F. Clark enumerates the coal plants of Rhode Island. Mr. Bayley Willis describes Mt. Tacoma in Washington Territory, giving the best account of this mountain which we have yet met with; it is illustrated by an artotype from a sketch made by the author. Mr. Willis notes the presence of ocean terraces about 1600 feet above the present sea level; and remarks "there are certainly eight glaciers on Mt. Tacoma, perhaps ten or twelve; I do not know exactly how many there may be on the south-east; but, beginning on the north-east and counting westward, there are the glaciers of the White and Carbon rivers, the two of the north fork of the Puyallup, the one of the south fork, that of the Nisqually and probably two of the Cowlitz river." Besides other papers, Mr. A. D. Wilson describes a trip through north-western Wyoming; and valuable contributions to local ornithology are Dr. Wm. C. Rives' Birds of Newport, and Col. J. H. Powel's List of birds shot near Newport.

— Professor C. W. Hall's interesting address on "The Physiographic Conditions of Minnesota Agriculture," is another article among others of our modern school of scientific agriculture which tends to show the intimate connection between the natural sciences and agriculture, and evincing the progress making in this country towards laying a scientific basis of agriculture. The subjects treated are the following: Minnesota, the center of the continent; land and water, arable, prairie and forest areas; forest trees, river basins, altitude of rivers, towns, lakes, their kinds and distribution; drift, soils, rainfall, temperature and climate, and consequent conditions of successful farming in the State. To have subjects like these brought to the attention of the younger and more active farmers of any State, is to immeasurably advance their interests and to increase the attractions of a farmer's life, enlarging the scope of his powers of observation.

— At a banquet lately given by a number of anthropologists to M. G. de Mortillet, the hall was decorated, says *Nature*, with a life-size picture of a prehistoric Gaul, executed according to the last discoveries of M. de Mortillet. The man is represented as having no hair on his body; his arms are very long and muscles very powerful, but his toes are not opposable, although they could be used in climbing the trees of the primitive forest. His jaw is strongly prognathous, but not at all equal to that of an anthropoid ape. His chest is strongly compressed laterally, and his abdomen prominent. The skin is not negroid, but of our present color. The expression of the face is in intelligence on a level with that of an Australian. In the Paris *salon* also is a large picture representing a prehistoric tribe preparing in their cave to feast upon a cave bear which has been killed with their stone implements.

— The sixth volume of the Bulletin of the Philosophical Society of Washington, just issued, contains the minutes of the Society for 1883, and of the mathematical section from its organization on March 29 to the close of the year. Among the papers are the annual address of the president, J. W. Powell, on "The three methods of evolution," and abstracts of communications by C. E. Dalton on the geology of the Hawaiian islands and "The volcanic problem stated;" by J. W. Chickering on the thermal belts of North Carolina; the geology of Hatteras, by W. C. Kerr; ore deposits by displacement, by S. F. Emmons; glaciation in Alaska, by W. H. Dall; the drainage system and loess of eastern Iowa, by W. J. McGee; the Cambrian system in the United States and Canada, by C. D. Wolcott.

— The twelfth annual Report of the Zoölogical Society of Philadelphia, shows that our foremost garden of animals is not less prosperous than in former years. The list of additions during the year is a full one, as is the list of animals bred in the garden during the year; among them a hybrid wallaby, a dingo, a zebra, an onyx, a Bactrian camel, besides a number of native animals. Among the more notable additions, were six sea elephants, and a chamois.

— Mr. Arthur F. Gray has compiled a complete list of the scientific papers of Thomas Bland, F.G.S., from 1852 to 1883, printed at Salem, Mass. The entries are seventy-two in number, and Mr. Gray acknowledges the material aid of Mr. Bland in the preparation of the list. It is to be hoped that the labors of one of our most distinguished conchologists, may go on and necessitate the issue of a future addendum, as long and as creditable as the original list itself.

— The fifteenth annual report of the American Museum of Natural History shows increased money receipts, increased number of visitors, with valuable additions to the collections of monkeys and apes, including the gorilla and chimpanzee, and fifty other monkeys from all parts of the world. Progress in the ornithological, entomological, conchological as well as archæological departments is reported.

— Professor Flower has the title of "Director" of the Natural History Museum instead of "Superintendent," which was Sir R. Owen's official designation. The staff will consist of four keepers of departments (botany, geology, mineralogy, zoölogy), two assistant keepers, eleven first-class and fourteen second-class assistants, a staff which would appear to be ample for the work to be done.

— The fourth number of the Bulletin of the Chicago Academy of Sciences is devoted to a report by H. A. Johnson and B. W. Thomas on the microscopic organisms in the boulder clays of Chicago and vicinity. These consist of rhizopods, diatoms, Foraminifera, including three forms identified by Professor Leidy, who states that these forms are still living in the Atlantic ocean.

— In another direction equally useful, though different in character, is Mr. E. Haworth's contribution to the geology of the lead and zinc mining district of Cherokee county, Kansas, presented to the Kansas State University, with an application for the degree of master of science; the author being a resident of Iowa.

— The question as to the authorship of The Vestiges of Creation is finally settled, as a new addition of the famous work is advertised by W. and R. Chambers, with an introduction admitting its authorship by Robert Chambers, and revealing the circumstances under which the book was written.

— It has been reported that Professor D. S. Jordan, will remove to London to take charge of some part of the ichthyological collection of the British Museum. Professor Jordan authorizes us to state that the report is untrue. We congratulate our friends that this is the fact.

— The Triennial Congress of Geologists was to have been held in Berlin on September 25th, of the present year. It has been postponed to the corresponding time next year on account of the invasion of the cholera in southern Europe.